M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages ____________

(2) Date of repair ____________

(3) Initials of the Refereneer ____________

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1326 Press/Mis.

436, 437

Dated 14. 5. 1872.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, *14th May* 1872.

No. 436. Read the following letter from the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to the Officiating Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madura, 20th April 1872, No. 263 :—

As G. O. of the 9th instant, No. 935, communicates the sanction of the Government of India to an expenditure of Rupees 87,200 during the current year on the Perryaur project, and as the general supervision of the work to be executed in that connection will devolve, it is presumed, on Captain J. Pennycuick, R.E., I have the honour to observe that I consider it undesirable that that officer should take charge, as ordered* by Government on my recommendation, of the Madura Range, when he may have to vacate it again in the course of a few months. In anticipation therefore of the approval of Government, I have appointed Captain Pennycuick to the Dindigul Range, with a view to his eventually taking over charge, in addition to his range duties, of such work as the Government may please to direct shall be carried out this year in connection with the Perryaur project; and I have every hope that, for the reasons assigned below, the Government will be pleased to sanction this arrangement.

* G. O., No 860, dated 27th March 1872.

2. The first work that will have to be carried out in connection with the Perryaur project is, of course, the construction of a ghaut of approach. As there appears, however, to be a considerable amount of misunderstanding as to the precise lay of this ghaut, it may be as well for me to offer here a few observations on this point.

3. In G. O., 31st January 1872, No. 199, in the Revenue Department, communicated with Order thereon, 8th February 1872, No. 71, Mr. Ballard, the Resident in Travancore and Cochin, not only takes the Acting Collector of Madura to task for "misapprehension" of the subject, but he commits himself to the unfortunate statement that "no ghaut road constructed for the Perryaur project will fit in with this line," *i.e.*, the line to connect the Cumbum valley with the Travancore country, in continuation of the line under construction by the Travancore Government.

4. The statement made by the Acting Collector of Madura and printed with G. O., dated 16th December 1871, No. 2,118†, Revenue Department, although its accuracy is impugned by Mr. Ballard, is quite correct, and indeed it is based upon information supplied from this office.

†G. O., No. 26, dated 5th January 1872, P. W. D.

5. The fact is that the approach to the site at which it was originally proposed to construct the Perryaur dam is up the eastern branch of the Cumbum valley, and if this site had been adhered to, it would have been necessary to make a ghaut specially for the Perryaur works, and entirely distinct from the natural line of communication between Goodaloor and Peermade. It is now, however, proposed to construct the dam very much lower down the river, and the natural approach to the new site is by the western branch of the Cumbum valley, and corresponds precisely with the Goodaloor and Peermade Ghaut as far as the Goodaloor Tavalum, whence a branch road will have to be made to the site of the dam.

6. It is understood that the Madras Government are to some extent bound, without reference to the Perryaur works, to complete the Goodaloor and Peermade ghauts, as far as the Travancore frontier.—See Mr. Ballard's letter already quoted. I may add that the whole of this portion of the road will be useful for the Perryaur, as the Goodaloor Tavalum, where the special Perryaur branch leaves the main line, is on the Travancore side of the frontier. Any work therefore which is done to this ghaut in fulfilment of the agreement with the Travancore Government, will be useful in connection with the Perryaur diversion.

7. As it is absolutely necessary that the road to the Perryaur dam should be completed before the execution of the works can be commenced, I earnestly hope that the Goodaloor Ghaut may be pushed on as rapidly as possible, independently of the Perryaur estimates, sanction to which may not be received for some time.

8. Whether the Perryaur works should bear any portion of the cost of the Goodaloor ghaut is a question that may perfectly be settled hereafter. As a trace of the new ghaut has been made by Lieutenant Rawson, R.E., and his estimate submitted, so Mr. R. Smith informs me, and as funds are available for the work, I am in great hopes that nothing will interfere to prevent this long promised, but long delayed, ghaut project from being at length fairly started.

9. As Captain Pennycuick will be able (with the assistance of Lieutenant Greer, R.E., on his return from leave) to undertake the execution of the ghaut in addition to the regular work of the Dindigul Range, I trust that, under the circumstances above represented, the Government will approve of my having appointed Captain Pennycuick to the charge of the Dindigul Range.

10. It will, I trust, be clearly understood that by the arrangement now suggested, Assistant Engineer Mr. G. R. Leggatt will continue for the present in charge of the Madura Range; but in order to relieve him from the excessive amount of work of which he complains, certain modifications will be recommended by me and be brought forward in a separate letter.

11. I have only, in conclusion, to remark that there is no officer available in this division for the preparation of a plan and estimate of the Goodaloor Ghaut as directed in G. O. of the 20th March 1872, No. 184. But this, as will be seen, happens to be really of no consequence, inasmuch as the estimate prepared under Mr. Smith's orders, and now before the Government, is for a line that will answer equally for the Perryaur project and for the general traffic of the country.

No. 437. ORDER THEREON, 14th May 1872, No. 1,326.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 46.

THE Government approve of the Superintending Engineer's arrangement in posting Captain Pennycuick, R.E., to the charge of the Dindigul Range.

2. The estimate for a road from Goodaloor to the Travancore frontier has been prepared by Mr. R. Smith, and the formation of a road from Periacolum to Cumbum is now under execution from Local Funds. An estimate is required for the gap between Cumbum and Goodaloor and for masonry works over irrigation

channels and other omissions in the estimate now being worked out between Periacolum and Cumbum, and the Government trust that the Superintending Engineer will be able to arrange for the submission of these estimates at an early date, when arrangements will be made for the provision of funds for the formation of this line, which may be superintended by Lieutenant Greer on his return from leave and until the season will admit of the ghaut work and the trace from the Goodaloor Tavalum to the proposed site of the dam being commenced.

(True Extract.)

Captain, R.E.,

Acting Joint Secretary to Government.

No 436

P. W. 1872 Depart.
Genl

Gr: of Govt for May No 263.

From, No 2031.

The Superintg Engineer
3rd Division

Rt No 290

To, The Secrety to Govt
D. P. W.
Madras

Dated 20th } April 1872.
Received 23rd } May.

Informs that he has appointed Captain J Pennycuick to the Dindigul Range with a view of his taking charge of the Perryaur Project works in addition to his Range duties.

No 1326 - 14 May /72.

15 May/72 D. 10

No 1326. P.W.D.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt.

Read the following

From,

The Supg Engineer 8th Divn (H. E. No 263 of 20th April/72)

The Government approve of the Superintending Engineers arrangement in posting Captain Pennycuick R. E to the charge of the Dindi-gul Range.

A. A.

J. D. S.

The Estimate for a Road from Goodalore to the Travancore frontier has been prepared by Mr. R. Smith and the formation

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No. 2031

Govt. of {1872} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Superintending Engr

8th Division

Dated

Recd. Encl.

G. O., 14th May 1872, No. 1326.

Nos. 436 & 437

Capt. Pennycuick. Passing orders on letter from the Supdg. Engr. of the 8th Dn. reporting that he has appointed Capt. Pennycuick to the Dindigul Range.